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NEF 19-9 US-IRAN

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STATES OF

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RSC-Ø1 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 EUR-20 NSC-10

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LESECTION ONE OF TWO TEHRAN 1665

FOR PM DIRECTOR RONALD SPIERS

SUBJI 15 PER CENT MAAG CUT

AT STATE 042164: B) USCINCEUR DIG 0815022 MARCH 1972: C) TEHRAN 45352 AUGUST 172 1971 DO TEHRAN 26602 MAY 202 DEF 19-9 45-TOWN. 1971 •

COUNTRY TEAM MESSAGE

(I)

SUMMARY. DESPITE REQUIRED 15 PER CENT MAAGEREDUCTION WORLD. WIDE, COUNTRY TEAM BELIEVES COMPELLING REASONS EXIST FOR INCREASE IN PRESENT ARMISH/MAAG COMPLEMENT TO MEET LONG UN-ANSWERED REQUEST OF SHAH. SHAH SEES MILITARY COOPERATION AS MAJOR BENEFIT HE GETS FROM RELATIONS WITH-U.S. ADVISORY MISSION IS REYELLEMENT IN THIS COOPERATION. IT IS UNDERMANNED AT TIME GOT MILITARY MODERNIZATION REQUIRES ADVISORY AUGMENTATION. UNLESS MAAG IS ADEQUATELY STAFFED TO PERFORM CREDIBLE AND RES-PONSTBLE ADVISORY ROLE, IT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN TRUST AND RELIANCE OF SHAH AND IRANIAN MILITARY NOR MEET ITS OBLIGA-TIONS FOR SUPPORT OF MAJOR US EQUIPMENT SALES TO IRAN. INFVITABLE RESULT WILL BE EROSION OF PRIMARY ADVISORY ROLE OF ARMISHIMA AG AND INCREASED BROCCOUNTRY MILITARY INFLUENCE AND SALES WITH EXPECTABLE LOSSES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE WHICH WILL MORE THAN OFESET ANY GAINS FROM MAAGSAVINGS. WE CAN ALSO EXPECT LOOS. ENING OF US-IRAN TIES AND LESSENING OF REAL BENEFITS US RE-

> DECLASSIFIED PA/HO Department of State E.O. 12958, as amended June 21, 2006

STATES OF

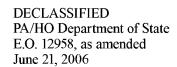
## **TELEGRAM**

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CEIVES FROM RELATIONS WITH IRAN. FURTHERMORE, UNDER EUCOM
PLAN TO TAKE OVER MAG ADMIN SUPPORT, INCREASE OF 36 ADVISORY
POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED MAY BE POSSIBLE WITHIN OVER.

ALL ARMISH/MAAG PERSONNEL REDUCTION OF MORE THAN FIFTEEN PER
CENT. EUCOM HAS PROPOSED THAT IT TAKE OVER DIRECTLY ADMIN.
ISTRATIVE SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DOD UNITS IN IRAN WHICH
NOW BEING CARRIED OUT BY ARMISH/MAAG SUPPORT ELEMENT. THIS
WOULD REDUCE MAAG STRENGTH BY SOME 120 US POSITIONS, AND LEAVE ADEQUATE ROOM FOR ADVISORY AUGMENTATION. ACTION REQUESTED.
DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR COMPLEMENT INCREASE
IS REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

- I. EVEN IN FACT OF CONGRESSIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR WORLD-WIDE MAAG COMPLEMENT REDUCTIONS, I AND MEMBERS OF COUNTRY TEAM CONTINUE TO BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT US MILITARY ADVISORY MISSION TO IRAN (ARMISH/MAAG) SHOULD NOT BE REDUCED BUT IN FACT SHOULD BE AUGMENTED AS HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY SHAH. WE HAVE STRESSED MANY TIMES IN PAST UNIQUE AND IMPORTANT ROLE ARMISH/MAAG PLAYS IN BOLSTERING US INTERESTS IN IRAN (REF C AND PREVIOUS), BUT IT BEARS REPEATING.
- SHAH CONSIDERS US MILITARY COOPERATION (ADVICE, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT) AS SINGLE MOST VALUABLE TANGIBLE BENEFIT IRAN GETS FROM ITS SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP AND RELATIONSHIP WITH US. IT IS A PRIMARY INDUCEMENT FOR IMPORTANT BENEFITS US RECEIVES IN RETURN -- (A) SPECIAL AND VITAL IN-COUNTRY FACILITIES AT NO COST TO USG: (B) IRREPLACABLE DIRECT OVERFLIGHT CORRIDOR FOR MILITARY AND CIVILIAN FLIGHTS BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA USED BY THOUSANDS OF US AIRCRAFT ANNUALLY (C) CONTRIBUTION TO US BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OF SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY IN MILITARY PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT, TRAINING AND SERVICES: (D) MOST IMPORTANTLY CONTINUING KINSHIP WITH US WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO KEEPING IRAN AS DEPENDABLE SUPPORTER OF US AND FREE WORLD POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC INTERESTS IN MIDDLE EAST (IN FULFILLMENT OF NIXON DOCTRINE) DESPITE IRAN'S FOREIGN POLICY OF REAL NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.
- 3. EFFECTIVE ADVISORY MISSION IS ITSELF ESSENTIAL PART OF USG MILITARY COOPERATION ON WHICH OTHER ASPECTS DEPEND. IT IS VITAL AND UNIQUE LINK IN BILATERAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GOI AND USG. USG MILITARY SALES AND TRAINING PROGRAMS WOULD BE CRIPPLED WITHOUT IT. SHAH CAN AFFORD TO BUY ELSE-



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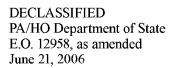
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WHERE AND WOULD, WERE IT NOT FOR HIS CONFIDENCE IN AND SATIS-FACTION WITH US EQUIPMENT AND ADVISORY SUPPORT FOR TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT USE AND MAINTENANCE. ARMISH/MAAG'S ADVICE OVER WHOLE RANGE OF MILITARY MATTERS IS HIGHLY REGARDED BY GOT AND PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN RATIONALIZING, AND LETTING IRAN'S MILITARY GROWTH AND EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION, BOTH US AND THIRD COUNTRY BENEFITS OF WHICH -- E G : RESTRAINT ON REGIONAL ARMS RACE - - WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT MAAG . MOREOVER ARMISH/MAAG HAS BECOME BELL WEATHER FOR GOI OF US SUPPORT FOR AND INTEREST IN TRANS AT TIME WHEN SHAH AND GOT VIEW WITH INCREASING CONCERN SOVIET ADVANCES IN AREA AND APPARENT US RETRENCHMENT. SHAH IS PREPARED ASSUME MORE RESPONSIBLE ROLE IN KEEPING WITH NIXON DOCTRINE BUT CANNOT ACHIEVE CREDIBLE MILITARY DETERRENT ON WHICH THIS ROLE BASED WITHOUT COOPERATION IN MILITARY FIELD FROM US.

4. FAVORABLE IMPACT AND RESPONSIBLE ROLE OF ARMISH/MAAG WILL CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON ITS ADEQUATE MANNING TO SERVE IRANIAN (AND US) NEEDS. BALPA AND OPRED CUTS WHICH REDUCED ADVISORY PERSONNEL BY NEARLY 40 PER CENT SERIOUSLY IMPAIRED ABILITY OF MAAG TO FULFILL ITS UNDERTAKINGS AT TIME WHEN ACCELERATED PACE OF IRANIAN MILITARY MODERNIZATION, INCREASING ACQUISITION



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PLIFINAL SECTION OF TWO TEHRAN 1665

OF SOPHISTICATED MODERN EQUIPMENT, AND INTRODUCTION OF MODERN PERSONNEL, MANAGEMENT, LOGISTICS SYSTEMS CALLED MORE THAN EVER FOR USG ADVISORY EXPERTISE. REQUEST BY SHAH FOR ADDITIONAL ADVISIORS REFLECTED HIS RECOGNITION OF THIS REAL NEED. FAIL-URE TO MEET THIS REQUEST IN OUR VIEW--AND THIS GOES DOUBLY FOR ANY CUTS IN PRESENT STAFFING--WOULD LEAVE SERIOUS GAPS IN US ADVISORY EFFORT AND CAUSE USG TO FALL SHORT IN SUPP-ORT FOR EQUIPMENT SALES. INEVITABLE RESULT WILL BE THAT SHAH WILL TURN ELSEWHERE FOR NECESSARY ADVISORY ASSISTANCE WE CANNOT PROVIDE AND FOR EQUIPMENT. AS CONSEQUENCE WE CAN EXPECT EROSION OF US INFLUENCE AND LOSS OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE FAR GREATER THAN ANY SAVING MAAG REDUCTION MIGHT GENERATE TO SAY NOTHING OF SETBACKS TO SHAH'S EFFORTS CREATE MODERN FORCE IF IT BECOMES DISLUTED BY MIX OF FOREIGN EQUIPMENT FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

WE ARE CONVINCED COMPELING REASONS EXIST TO INCREASE ARMISHMAAG COMPLEMENT BY 36 POSITIONS AS PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED.

MOREOVER UNDER EUCOM PROPOSAL TO REORGANIZE MAAG THIS CAN BE DONE AND 15 PERCENT CUT IN MAAG JTU CAN STILL BE ACHIEVED.

EUCOM HAS ADVISED ARMISH/MAAG (REF B) THAT IT PROPOSES, EFF.

ECTIVE JULY 1, TO ASSUME DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS NOW BING PERFORMED FOR ALL DOD UNITS IN IRAN BY ARMISH/MAAG SUPPORT ELE
MENT. IF PROPOSAL CARRIED OUT, MAAG COMPLEMENT WILL BE REDUC
ED AS FOLLOWS:



## **TELEGRAM**

## CONTRACTOR

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STATES OF

	TOTAL TRANSFER OF			REDUCED	
	MAAG	SUPPORT	ELEMENT	MAAG	
US MILITARY	250	102		148	
DOD CIVILIAN	55	8		14	
FOREIGN NATIONNAL	153	135		18	
	425	245		180	

EVEN IF 36 REQUESTED ADVISORY POSITIONS WERE ADDED TO MAAG JTU, RESULTING TOTAL WOULD BE BELOW EVEN 25 PER CENT CUT CONGRESS HAS AIMED FOR.

6. WITH MEANS AVAILABLE TO MEET REQUESTED INCREASE WHILE COMPLYING WITH CONGRESSIONAL REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS WE HOPE FAVORABLE ACTION ON SHAHIS REQUEST MAY AGAIN PROCEED (REQUEST WAS ORIGINALLY MADE NEARLY A YEAR AGO-(REF D). CONGRESS-IONAL ACTION LEAVES ROOM FOR SELECTIVE AND RATIONAL LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD-WIDE REQUIREMENT, AND WE TRUST USG WILL MAKE FULL USE THIS WELCOME LEEWAY.

7. SPECIFIC STAFFING INFO SOUGHT IN REF A FOLLOWS:

A. ASSIGNED STRENGTH OF ARMISH/MAAG AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 1971

US MILITARY 243 US CIVILIAN 18 TOTAL 261

FOREIGN NATIONAL-DIRECT HIRE 151
FOREIGN NATIONAL-CONTRACT 17
TOTAL 429

ON BOARD STRENGTH DID NOT VARY SIGNIFICANTLY FROM ASSIGNED FIGURE.

B. ARMISH/MAAG RECORDS SHOW NUMBER OF TOYS AS:

1970 718 1971 474

AVERAGE LENGTH OF TOY WAS 8.2 DAYS.

